



Burnaby Association
for Community Inclusion

2702 Norland Avenue
Burnaby, British Columbia
Canada V5B 3A6

March 16, 2020

Dear BACI Families, Friends, Caregivers and Service Providers:

As you know, BACI's Still Creek Centre is a place where a large number of people gather on a daily basis. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we made the difficult decision last week to no longer allow community groups to use Still Creek in evenings and on weekends until further notice.

Now, with the COVID-19 pandemic still a grave concern, and with an abundance of caution and care, BACI has decided to entirely close its Still Creek Centre and Artists Helping Artists (AHA) Studio as of 4:00pm on Wednesday, March 18th until further notice. (If some people choose to stop coming to Still Creek prior to this closure, we understand and support their decision.)

Over the next few days, our Management Team will be looking at all participants of Community Inclusion Day Programs and Outreach Services on a case-by-case basis and planning how we can re-allocate our staff and other resources to the best of our ability -- to continue serving these participants outside of Still Creek Centre and AHA Studio, and in the community. Our aim is to minimize disruptions as much as possible for the people we serve, their families, caregivers, our employees and other service providers.

We want to make sure our Resource Re-allocation Plan meets the needs of as many participants, families, caregivers and other service providers as possible. While we do not have a lot of time to reach out to each and every one of you, we do need to hear from those of you who have circumstances we are not aware of and should be considered in our planning. We'll need to hear from you by 4:00pm on Tuesday, March 17. Contact information is below:

**Community Inclusion and AHA - Kama Guezalova - kama.guezalova@gobaci.com
Life Sharing Network - Karey DeGenova - karey.degenova@gobaci.com
Outreach - Eric Hofer - eric.hofer@gobaci.com**

While we cannot guarantee that there will be no disruption during this time, we are confident that if we work together we can get through this. The individual plans that will be shared with each person and their family or caregiver will outline the support available to them (ie. which staff will be working with them, where and when they will meet).

A *BACI Information Hotline* will be set up by the afternoon of Wednesday, March 18, through our main line at 604-299-7851.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during this challenging time. We will keep you updated as the rapidly changing situation -- and our plans -- evolve. As always, the health and safety of the people we serve, their families and caregivers, as well as our employees, is of utmost importance to us.

Sincerely,

Richard Faucher
Co- Executive Director

Tanya Sather
Co-Executive Director